

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic head assembly ~~including~~ comprising:

a magnetic recording head, having a leading side and a trailing side relative to the traveling direction of a magnetic recording medium and fabricated in a thin film forming process, and at least one auxiliary member adhered to either said leading side or said trailing side of said magnetic recording head, wherein: said magnetic recording head ~~comprises:~~ including;

a substrate, substrate;

a first magnetic core formed above said substrate and having a front end portion thereof, on said substrate;

a second magnetic core formed above said substrate in the condition with a front end portion thereof having a predetermined gap (referred to as a "magnetic gap" below) with respect to having a front end portion of said first magnetic core and with and a back end portion thereof, said back end portion being connected to said first magnetic core, and core,

a magnetic gap of predetermined thickness provided between said front end portion of said first magnetic core and said front end portion of said second magnetic core,

a coil disposed between said first magnetic core and said second magnetic core for developing a magnetic flux between the front end portions of said first and second magnetic cores,

wherein a width of said second magnetic core at the front end portion thereof is ~~formed~~ equal to or smaller than ~~that~~ a width of said first magnetic core, and

wherein said second magnetic core is positioned ~~at a~~ on said leading side of said ~~relative to said first magnetic core in a traveling direction on a magnetic recording~~ medium head.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The magnetic head assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein a saturation magnetic flux density of a material of said first magnetic core is chosen to be larger than that of said second magnetic core.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The magnetic head assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first magnetic core is made of two or more kinds of stacked films and a saturation magnetic flux density of a material of at least one film of the stacked films closest to said magnetic gap is chosen to be larger than that of said second magnetic core.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A magnetic tape drive unit comprising a magnetic head assembly for recording signals on a tape shaped recording medium and tape driving means for making the tape shaped recording medium to travel along a predetermined traveling path, wherein:

said magnetic head assembly ~~comprises~~ comprises:

a magnetic recording head having a leading side and a trailing side relative to the traveling direction of said tape-shaped recording medium and fabricated ~~made~~ by a thin film forming ~~process~~; process, and at least one auxiliary member adhered to either said leading side or said trailing side of said magnetic recording head, said magnetic recording head ~~includes~~ including, a substrate, a first magnetic core formed ~~on~~ above said substrate and having a front end portion thereof, a second magnetic core formed above said substrate ~~in a condition with a front end portion thereof having a predetermined gap (referred to as a "magnetic gap" below) with respect to~~ having a front end portion of said first magnetic core and with a back end portion thereof, said back end portion being connected to said first magnetic core, a magnetic gap of predetermined thickness provided between said front end portion of said first magnetic core and said front end portion of said second magnetic core, ~~and~~ a coil disposed between said first magnetic core and said second magnetic core for developing a magnetic flux between end portions of said first and second magnetic cores;

wherein a width of said second magnetic core at the front end portion is ~~formed~~ equal to or smaller than ~~that~~ a width of said first magnetic core; and

wherein said second magnetic core is positioned at a leading side ~~relative to said first~~

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~~magnetic core in a traveling direction on a tape shaped recording medium~~ of said magnetic recording head.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The magnetic tape drive unit as claimed in claim 7, wherein a saturation magnetic flux density of a material of said first magnetic core is chosen to be larger than that of said second magnetic core.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The magnetic tape drive unit as claimed in claim 7, wherein said first magnetic core comprises two or more kinds of stacked films and a saturation magnetic flux density of a material of at least one film of the stacked films closest to said magnetic gap is chosen to be larger than that of said second magnetic core.

12.-18. (Cancelled)

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19. (New) The magnetic head assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein a first auxiliary member is adhered to said leading side of said magnetic recording head and a second auxiliary member is adhered to said trailing side of said magnetic recording head.

20. (New) The magnetic head assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein a first auxiliary member is adhered to said leading side of said magnetic recording head and a second auxiliary member is adhered to said trailing side of said magnetic recording head.